

IC 75-2523  
26 September 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy to the DCI for the Intelligence  
Community  
Associate Deputy to the DCI for the  
Intelligence Community

SUBJECT: NSC/WSAG Staff Operations Center

REFERENCE: Memo for the Director from Mr. Knoche,  
dated 17 September 1975, subject:  
Crisis Management and Operations  
Centers

1. Mr. Colby's comment on the above memorandum said:

"The real key is to focus crisis management on NSC and WSAG--and hang the intel input onto those. Then recognizing the op secrecy, narrowing of circles and verticalization of intel that occur in crises. Then get a structure of a WSAG Working Group with both intel and operational members to staff WSAG and integrate all info."

2. The implementation of such a policy depends heavily on properly organized communication. Both the NSC and the WSAG are not continuously operating bodies. WSAG does not even have a staff. Both bodies, when they are in session, depend primarily on the limited communications support of the White House Situation Room (WHSR).

3. The integration of information "both intel and operational" would require CONTEXT-type communication tools plus other techniques of rapid retrieval of not only documents but of expertise as well. Vertical conferencing also should be provided.

4. A WSAG staff should not be constructed around substantive experts--crises are too varied to allow such a

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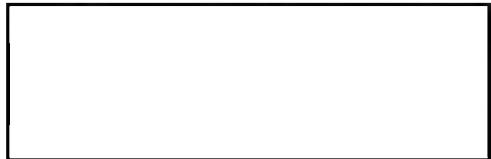
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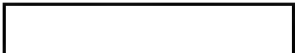
structure. Instead, a WSAG staff should be composed of people who know the national nervous system well enough to be able to tap the sources of input information as well as know the paths from decision to execution.

5. If you concur, we will include in the CONTEXT Plan a provision for the eventual inclusion of a full CONTEXT terminal at the WHSR. This would not imply, however, that the White House would be included in all types of CONTEXT conferences.

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cc:



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